



Genetic Disease Program Sickle Cell Disease Day Hospital

The result of not funding this new initiative will continue to force sickle cell patients in crisis to access emergency room treatment for pain management.

Objective

Reduce emergency room visits and hospitalizations of sickle cell patients by the following expansions in specialized sickle cell care:

1. Establish day hospitals for adult sickle cell patients at the Sickle Cell Center of Southern Louisiana - New Orleans, the Sickle Cell Center of Northern Louisiana – Shreveport and in Baton Rouge at a site to be determined
2. Establish regional sickle cell clinics for adult care
3. Establish transitional programs and clinics for adolescent age and young adult patients
4. Empower patients to become self sufficient and healthy adults through supportive counseling by social workers with the regional sickle cell foundations
5. Establish a system for evaluating the cost benefit of this plan for delivery of care earlier and more specific care to adult sickle cell patients

Performance Indicators

1. Increase the percentage of visits to day hospitals for sickle cell disease management
2. Decrease the percentage of patients who are hospitalized
3. Reduce the number of hospital days per year per patient

Narrative

Since childhood lead poisoning is the most common environmental health threat to children ages six months to six years of age, and entirely preventable, the Louisiana Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LACLPPP) addresses lead poisoning on a statewide level of children six years of age and under. It is preferred that children are screened by 1 to 2 years of age.

Children are particularly at risk to lead's toxic effects because their bodies are growing quickly and tend to absorb more lead than adults and children's hand-to-mouth activities are plentiful,

which introduces many non-food items into their gastrointestinal tract. Toxic effects of lead poisoning include: learning disabilities, decreased growth, hyperactivity, impaired hearing, and even brain damage.

The primary sources of lead exposure for most children are:

- Deteriorating lead-based paint;
- Lead contaminated dust; and
- Lead contaminated soil.

The purpose of LACLPPP is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Louisiana through a comprehensive approach to prevention of lead poisoning and the management of children found to have elevated blood levels.

What services are provided?

- Monitoring of blood lead levels in children six years of age and under.
- Identification of children with elevated blood lead levels.
- Care coordination for these children with elevated blood lead levels.
- Environmental inspection and follow-up for these children.
- Community and professional education on childhood lead poisoning.

Emphasis is placed the importance of screening **all** children in Louisiana younger than 6 years of age not only children from lower socioeconomic levels or who only access government sponsored services. Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC 48: V. 7005 designates ALL Parishes in state of Louisiana as high risk areas for childhood lead poisoning. This is a change from the previous designation of only four high risk parishes. Therefore, medical providers of routine primary care services to children ages 6 months to 72 months who reside in or spend more than 10 hours per week in any Louisiana parish must have such children screened.

Better Health

As stated in indicator 2, the period from birth to age five is one of opportunity and vulnerability for healthy physical, emotional, social and cognitive development. A child with lead poisoning is most vulnerable. LACLPPP is committed to the Healthy People 2010 goal of eliminating elevated blood lead levels in children. Lower lead levels can result in decreased learning and behavior problems. As a result this has the potential of easing the burden on the educational, social services and mental health systems.

Safe & Thriving Children & Families

This addresses the key factors of a stable home and environment. To eliminate childhood lead poisoning, lead safe homes and play areas must be made available for children ages 6 months to 6 years old. The overall environmental goal then is to increase lead safe housing for children. Property owners, property managers, realtors and tradespersons involved in construction and painting must be educated, involved and motivated to safely remove lead based paint.

- State rules and codes: RS 40:1299.21; RS 40:1299.22; RS 40:1299.24; RS 40:1299.25; RS 40:1299.27;
LAC 48:V.7007 and 7009
- CDC Cooperative Agreement EH06-602
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance 93.197
- Healthy People 2010
- CDC Lead Poisoning Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/>